United Nations A/57/94/Add.1

General Assembly

Distr.: General
12 September 2002

Original: English

Fifty-seventh session
Item 22 (r) of the provisional agenda*
Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations: cooperation between the United Nations and the Southern African Development Community

Cooperation between the United Nations and the Southern African Development Community

Report of the Secretary-General**

Addendum

Summary

The present addendum to the report of the Secretary-General (A/57/94) is based on additional information received from Member States and United Nations organizations on programmes undertaken in cooperation with the Southern African Development Community.

* A/57/190.

** The present report contains information received from Member States and United Nations organizations since the publication of A/57/94.

02-58568 (E) 011002

A. Action taken by Member States

Japan

1. The Tokyo Agenda for Action, adopted at the Second Tokyo Conference on African Development, held from 19 to 21 October 1998, reaffirmed the importance of regional cooperation and South-South cooperation for development. Earlier, Japan contributed $76,000 in financial assistance to the Southern African Development Community (SADC) secretariat and provided a Japanese expert to strengthen its capacity in programme planning and management, as well as assistance for workshops in SADC member States to launch SADC national committees, aimed at the restructuring of SADC. During fiscal year 2001, Japan's official development assistance to SADC countries amounted to $216 million in support of regional integration, construction of roads and bridges and improvement of infrastructure.

B. Action taken by the United Nations system

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

2. The SADC Regional Programme for Food Security and a SADC regional programme in irrigation training were elaborated with the assistance of the Technical Cooperation Programme of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). During the period under review, FAO provided technical support for a European Union-funded regional programme for remote sensing as well as for an SADC workshop on prospects for urban and peri-urban agriculture, urban food security and growth; a regional workshop to harmonize fisheries policies in the SADC region; preparation of an action plan to implement the SADC protocol for fisheries; and preparation of a situation report on drought mitigation and prevention strategies.

International Maritime Organization

3. In March 2001 and March 2002, the International Maritime Organization (IMO) regional coordinator for the eastern and southern Africa subregion represented IMO at the third and fourth meetings of the Maritime and Inland Waterways Transport sub-sectoral committee of the Southern African Transport and Communications Commission (SATCC), which is the technical unit responsible for all SADC transport matters. The Committee adopted the model safety regulations for inland waterways vessels and non-conventional size craft operating in Africa developed by IMO, and urged SADC member States to speed-up implementation of the regulations.

4. SADC member States are implementing initiatives aimed at greater regional integration with IMO technical assistance, including a memorandum of understanding on port administration for the Indian Ocean; the establishment of coordinated search and rescue plans for African coastal States and shore-based facilities; the development of capacities for maritime police enforcement; and the implementation of the Oil Pollution Preparedness Response and Cooperation (OPRC) Convention for the eastern and southern African subregion. In April 2001, IMO participated in the SADC Transport Investment Forum, held at Windhoek.

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

5. The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), through its subregional coordinating centre in Harare, worked closely with the Southern Africa Consortium for Monitoring Educational Quality in promoting a programme of cooperative educational policy research to generate information for use by decision makers in the region. The programme, which assesses the performance level of students and teachers in primary education, supports the establishment of a data-collection base and publishes reports for educational and academic planning in the subregion, has led to the establishment of a SACMEQ data archive. UNESCO is also assisting in the implementation of a subregional project entitled "SADC initiative for improving regional capacity in education policy". Two ongoing subregional projects on HIV/AIDS preventive education, aimed at capacity-building and promoting information-sharing, are being implemented by UNESCO.

6. Through a subregional project on education for human rights and democracy in southern Africa, implemented in Mozambique, Namibia and Zimbabwe, UNESCO contributed to: the mainstreaming of human rights and democracy in core curriculum; the production of teaching/learning materials for teachers and students; and the training of trainers, curriculum developers and textbook writers.

7. Following the establishment of the SADC News Agencies Pool in May 2001, UNESCO has provided financial assistance for the setting up and training of media workers for southern African news agencies. Film and video training courses were organized in SADC countries during 2001 and 2002. SADC countries are actively participating in different activities related to a virtual observatory of cultural policies, which is a platform for meetings, information exchange and knowledge-sharing on cultural policy.

8. UNESCO is helping regional countries in the domain of hydrology to assess regional needs in education and training for water resources management. A UNESCO chair in geohydrology was established at the Western Cape University in South Africa, which provides training for hydrologists in the subregion in order to ensure better management of groundwater.

9. SADC member States are fully involved in the Global Renewable Energy Education and Training Programme (GREET Programme 1996-2002), which is monitored by the Harare UNESCO office. The GREET Programme is one of the major projects of universal scope included in the World Solar Programme (1996-2005) on education and training on renewable energies. Seminars and training programmes at national level were also organized.

10. Five SADC Indian Ocean countries (Mauritius, Mozambique, the Seychelles, South Africa and the United Republic of Tanzania) participated in training and research activities organized by the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO with particular focus on the development and protection of the coastal and marine environment.

World Intellectual Property Organization

11. A cooperation agreement between the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) and SADC has been circulated by the SADC secretariat to all its member States. The approval process is under way. A senior adviser to the Executive Secretary of SADC participated in the WIPO Sino-African Intellectual Property Forum organized in Beijing in May 2002. WIPO continued to provide legal advisory services and technical assistance in all areas of intellectual property and to implement human resources development programmes for the benefit of SADC member States as well as the SADC secretariat.